The private EPZ at Surat has become functional from 2-1-96. The other private/joint sector EPZs are yet to become operational.

(c) There are Seven Export Processing Zones (EPZs) in the country set up by the Government in Kandla (Gujarat), Santa Cruz, Bombay (Maharashtra), Noida (Uttar Pradesh,), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Cochin (Kerala), Falta (West Bengal) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh).

(d) and (e) A study on Export Processing Zones was carried out through the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in 1993 which reviewed the functioning of the EPZs and suggested the strategy to accelerate exports from the EPZs. The policy framework for EPZs was suitably modified, taking into account also the inputs such as the study by the IIFT. The changes effected in the Exim policy in this regard included broadening of the areas of activity permissible in the Zones to include trading, re-export after repacking, labelling, repairs and re-engineering.

Disinvestment of STC

4460. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA :

SHRI AMAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Federation of State Trading Corportation Employees Union, New Delhi regarding disinvestment of STC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The federation of State Trading Corporation Employees Unions have submitted a representation against the move for disinvestment of STC, particularly on the ground that the Corporation is a profit making Organisation. The disinvestment proposal of STC would be processed within the frame work of the Government's policy on the subject which inter-alia provides for protection of interests in all cases.